

HARD TRAINING ON CUSTER SCHEDULE

BUSINESS OF MAKING AN ARMY IS NOW UNDER WAY IN EARNEST.

INTRICATE DETAILS ARE TAUGHT

Bayonet Combat on Schedule—Study Is Complete Although Pursued With Improvised Equipment.

Camp Custer, Battle Creek—The business of making an army is now under way in earnest at Camp Custer. Heretofore the soldiers have been taught only the simple rudiments of their profession. From now on they will be introduced to the more intricate details.

For the first time bayonet exercises and bayonet combat are on the schedule. The study is pursued with improvised equipment, but it is vigorous and complete.

Another change is the addition to the program of lectures on "Why we are at war." Officers speak on this topic.

The teaching of first aid to the injured and the introduction of marches as a part of the regular schedule are also on the program.

The setting up exercises, the school of the soldier, squad and company with lectures on military discipline and courtesy will continue as they will always be a part of the soldiers' instruction. With the addition of lectures on personal hygiene and care of the feet they constitute the present program for rifle companies.

The training of the machine gun companies and battalions varies slightly from that given rifle companies. They are being introduced to the first steps in marksmanship, both for the machine gun and the pistol. Advanced lessons in signalling are also given. The same is true of the artillery. The men attached to the big guns are getting their first lessons in the care of material and projectiles.

The program provides for the 40 hours of work with Wednesday and Saturday afternoons free for recreation.

TAKES 1 HOUR TO EXAMINE MAN

Until They Pass, Recruits Are Given Only Simple Drills.

Camp Custer, Battle Creek—Experience gained in the last draft shows that a man can be examined in about an hour. Capt. R. C. Wilson of the 339th, has a system whereby men are sent through in groups of 50, and each group is disposed of in about three hours.

First, the men are numbered by wetting their arms and writing on them with indelible pencil. They are called up by number to have the various tests made, and as each man goes forward his numbered papers go with him. He is fed through the mill with precision gained by experience with the last batch.

Until they are examined and accepted, the men do as did the first batch, simply drill and learn as much as possible. If there is anyone whom the drill affects badly he is sent back to barracks, but as soon as they arrived the recruits were obliged to start learning.

Some of the district boards sent the halt and blind for the camp medics to pass upon. It was stated by some of the representatives who arrived with the men they had passed nearly every one, leaving the final decision with camp officials. One man with no front teeth came, another with slight defective that he could not see five feet away without glasses and another with a crippled knee. All these men will be sent home.

33D MAY GO OVERSEAS SOON

Are Doing Guard Duty at Camp Custer—Leave in Few Weeks.

Camp Custer, Battle Creek—The first men to leave Camp Custer on the initial lap of the journey to France will be the eight companies of the Thirty-third Michigan now on guard duty here. They are expected to move in three weeks, or as soon as the national army men can take over the work of guarding the camp.

The protection of the great stores of war materials has been their task from the moment the first trainloads of lumber were laid down. They came from the Mexican border before the camp began to appear. Day and night, in shifts of 300 men, they have guarded against fire, theft and marauding.

The national guard of Michigan stands highest of all the national guardsmen in the estimate of regular army men. Michigan's military laws have been so greatly improved during the past eight years that the war department at Washington use them as a model for other states to follow.

WITH THE BOYS AT CAMPCUSTER

Shower baths are in operation and the men are taking advantage of them in spite of the cold water.

The construction department sends nightly reports to the department in Washington of its progress and a weekly panorama.

Many new arrivals wore their oldest clothes, evidently intending to throw them away as soon as they receive uniforms.

MICHIGAN NEWS BRIEFS

The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Hokolik of Manistique fell into a tub of hot water and died from the burns.

When a rear wheel of his motor car collapsed Frank Kelch, a milkman of Port Huron sustained a fractured skull.

A campaign to get farmers to produce "Red Rock" wheat in Michigan has shown results and a record yield of an improved cereal grain is expected.

Don McGee, Saginaw aviator, has been attached to Selfridge field as an instructor. Recently he flew from Saginaw to Mt. Clemens, 100 miles, in 75 minutes.

Latin W. Merritt, 74, a resident of Albion for 63 years, is dead. He and his father, when he was 11 years old, drove through from New York with a team and wagon.

Because Oakland county failed to find eight applicants to attend a county normal training class, Commissioner A. L. Craft had to abandon the class for another year.

A notice to report for military service was all that identified a man struck by the Traverse City, Leelanau & Manistique train as Peter Michael Zielinski, 23 years old of Traverse City.

Because the regular man who feeds the mules wasn't on the job, workmen of the Bliss mine at Saginaw refused to go down into the shafts. They couldn't decide who would feed the animals.

Fire destroyed the Citizens' Telephone office at White Cloud. No water was available as the water works flume was undergoing repairs and steam had been allowed to go down in the auxiliary.

Prosecution of the milk trust at Sault Ste. Marie was dropped following a statement to the grand jury that the organization would dissolve and that the price of milk would drop to 10 cents a quart.

Barney M. Laing, of Tawas City, was taken to a Bay City hospital for treatment for a broken leg. Laing weighs 335 pounds and was walking along First street, Tawas City, when he fell from the sidewalk.

Lee Foy and Lee Sun Wing may be some American soldiers' bunkies in the camp at Battle Creek and in France. They are Chinese laundrymen of Pontiac who were drafted and refused to claim exemption.

Grand Rapids is making money off its hide dealing establishment. When the new form of government took effect it was decided soon after that instead of burning cats and dogs the animals be first skinned and the pelts sold. So far 202 cat hides and 135 dog hides have been disposed of.

Northern Michigan's apple crop is reported a failure this year. Buyers say the crop is only 20 per cent normal. Heavy snow storms last spring are responsible, it is said. Plums and peaches were unaffected by the storms and the crop will be normal. Early varieties are being marketed now.

"I'd rather shoot myself here than be shot over there," was the note left beside the body of Russell Logan, 23 years old, found dead on the road between Buchanan and Niles. Logan had gone from Niles to Buchanan to be examined for the new national army. On the way back he shot himself.

Detroit's population, according to estimates made by the city assessors, is 904,134. This total is reached by adding the normal increase to the last year's figures of the water board and checking them with other figures gathered by the assessors themselves. They believe the estimate is as nearly correct as any that has been made.

Mrs. Clister Sherkey, of Marine City, widow of Benjamin Sherkey, attempted suicide by cutting her throat with a razor. Mrs. Sherkey is the mother of six children. Two years ago her husband committed suicide by cutting his throat. Mrs. Sherkey had been for some time confined in a retreat, but recently was allowed to return home.

"When you said good-by a week ago, you told me I would never see you alive again. Now I find you as lively as a cricket," said a neighbor woman to Mrs. Mary Hanson, Ludington, 82 years old. Mrs. Hanson became angry and upon retiring that night hanged herself with a cord suspended from the ceiling, which she used to raise herself in bed. She was in feeble health.

Judge Horace S. Maynard, 67 years old, former prosecuting attorney and mayor, and one of the most prominent Masons in the state, died at his home at Charlotte after a long illness. Judge Maynard was grand lecturer for the last 11 years of Royal Arch Masons, chairman of the judiciary committee of the grand commandery, past grand high priest of the grand chapter of Michigan and past grand thrice illustrious master of the grand council of Michigan.

The sixty-fourth annual Clinton county fair was held at St. Johns last week.

The Central Michigan Pike association was formed at a meeting at Owosso for the purpose of organizing the Holland to Port Huron motor trail. Roy Bailey, of Corunna, was elected president, and W. A. Seegmiller, of Owosso, secretary and treasurer. The road will be marked as the Central Michigan pike. Grand Rapids, Port Huron and Flint chambers of commerce are co-operating in the movement.

BERNSTORFF LEADER OF TEUTON PLOTTERS IN U.S.

Copies of Records, Cablegrams, and Other Correspondence Show Former Ambassador's Hand Throughout a Series of Plots Against America

EVIDENCE OF GUILT IS CONCLUSIVE

Records Reveal Attempts to Influence Legislation Before Relations Were Broken—Show Payments of Money for Destruction of Lives and Spreading Propaganda

Washington—Determination to unearth the organization through which former Ambassador von Bernstorff worked in his efforts to prevent war, has developed in congress. House and senate leaders aroused at Sec'y Lansing's spectacular announcement of von Bernstorff's intrigue immediately demanded searching inquiry.

That an organization—powerful and richly supplied—was at Bernstorff's command is certain in light of Secretary Lansing's expose. It was agreed "on the Hill." But it operated without the legislators' knowledge of its financial backing, they declared.

Washington—The message sent by Count von Bernstorff January 22, 1917, while he was German ambassador here, to the Berlin foreign office requesting authority to pay \$50,000 "to influence Congress through a certain organization," is as follows:

"I request authority to pay out up to 50,000 (fifty thousand) dollars, in order, as on former occasions, to influence Congress through the organization you know of, which can perhaps prevent war.

"I am beginning in the meantime to act accordingly.

"In the above circumstances, a public official German declaration in favor of Ireland is highly desirable, in order to gain the support of Irish influence here."

The state department has plenty of proof that the cablegram as made public actually reached Germany. Neither Secretary Lansing nor any other officials would say whether any reply ever reached the ambassador. It is presumed, however, that one did, inasmuch as at that time the channels of communication of the German embassy were of the best.

Sensors and representatives were told by the state department that the text as made public was complete. Intimations that certain organizations, through which von Bernstorff worked, were mentioned in the cablegram were denied.

No Comment By Lansing.

The text of the message was given out without comment. Extraordinary disclosures already made has fixed the belief that agents of the United States government have



COUNT VON BERNSTORFF.

collected and compiled the entire story of German duplicity and intrigue.

The reference to avoiding war is taken as an indication that Bernstorff had knowledge of his government's intention to proclaim a merciless submarine warfare, and that he was equally confident that the United States government could not be placated by mere promises. The German announcement of its submarine plans was not made public until January 31. Three days later the United States government had severed relations with Germany.

The German ambassador had denied knowledge of his government's intention and pretended that he did not approve the course.

Congress Not Bribed.

It has not been assumed that the ambassador actually attempted to bribe or to personally influence any member of congress.

Fifty thousand dollars, it was pointed out, would go but a short way toward buying the influence of any congressman.

Judiciously expended, however, it might do much in compensating paid agents, known to have belonged to the elaborate machine Bernstorff had so carefully built up for propaganda and espionage.

Washington—Amazing disclosures of far-reaching German propaganda, intrigues, and plots in this country prior to the diplomatic break with Germany were made Saturday by the committee on public information.

In a bulletin styled "official expose" the committee quotes numerous letters, seized by the department of justice in April, 1916, in a raid on the New York office of Wolfe von Igel. Von Igel, in carrying on his manifold anti-American activities, documents show, was in constant touch with the German embassy and with Count von Bernstorff, then German ambassador to the United States.

Offenses Are Listed.

"In the form of letters, telegrams, notations, checks, receipts, ledgers, cash books, cipher codes, lists of spies and other memoranda," the committee says, "were found indications—in some instances of the vaguest nature, in others of the most damning conclusiveness—that the German imperial government, through its representatives in a then friendly nation, was concerned with:

"Violation of the laws of the United States.

"Destruction of lives and property in merchant vessels on the high seas.

"Irish revolutionary plots against Great Britain.

"Fomenting ill feeling against the United States in Mexico.

"Subordination of American writers and lecturers.

"Financing of propaganda.

"Maintenance of a spy system under the guise of a commercial investigation bureau.

"Subsidizing of a bureau for the purpose of stirring labor troubles in munition plants.

"The bomb industry and other related activities."

Bernstorff Leader.

Across the page streaked the name of Count von Bernstorff, former German ambassador, and his aides, Von Papen and Boy-Ed, Attaches of the embassy.

Atop of this revelation linking the German embassy with throttling designs against the United States, Senator King revealed letters that proved Fair Play and other radical newspapers had fattened on the largesse of German and Austrian agents. He advised weeding out the propagandists and counseled making war on Austria, Bulgaria and Turkey.

King told the senate he had photographic copies of checks and receipts for money paid by von Bernstorff to the Fairplay Publishing Co. and Marcus Braun, its editor, among others.

The Fairplay magazine may be one of the guiding hands of the "organization" mentioned by von Bernstorff as a possible factor in trying to influence congress against war. The sums paid out to it by the embassy show that it was a constant drain on the Teutonic exchequer.

King said he also has copies of papers showing payments from the Austrian embassy to foreign language newspapers. Among these is a \$700 subsidy paid a Polish newspaper.

Data Is Authentic.

King's data is known to be absolutely authentic and further shows the extent of von Bernstorff's web of influence stretched throughout this country.

The King expose coupled with the state department revelations, stirred congress to new demands for searching inquiry into the use of the disloyal press in spreading German propaganda.

King's data shows that von Bernstorff was operating his pro-Teuton poison early in the war and the payments cited by King were almost two years previous to those Bernstorff admitted were being made in January, 1917.

If we can get a definite lead to work on, we will begin an investigation of the Bernstorff slush fund," said Senator Overman.

Overman is chairman of the lobby investigating committee. This committee can begin the investigation without a resolution or any further authorization than it possesses.

Overman conferred with several senators who have evidence.

Lansing authorized this statement: "I wish to say emphatically that I do not see how the Bernstorff fund, in any way reflects on congress or any member. This expose was apropos of German methods of peace propaganda and there is no intention of casting suspicion on members of congress."

While deploring the tendency of some men in congress to delay legislation that would aid the war, Senator King does not believe that any members of the body have been actually influenced by German money.

The Wrong Kind of Keys



AIRMAN KILLED AT SELFRIDGE FIELD

STUDENT AVIATOR FALLS 1500 FEET WHEN MACHINE GETS BEYOND CONTROL.

IS THE FIRST FATAL ACCIDENT

Victim Had Passed Necessary Tests For Reserve Military Airmen—Slated For Lieutenantcy.

Mt. Clemens—His airplane turning turtle, making two complete loops and failing to recover, Wilbur A. Mong, of Titusville, Pa., student aviator at Selfridge Aviation field, Mt. Clemens, fell 1,500 feet at 10:30 o'clock Saturday morning and was instantly killed.

The theory is that Mong fainted because of the high altitude, fell across the controls, and prevented the machine from righting itself. Although there have been several accidents and falls at Selfridge field since the aviation school was opened in July, this is the first fatality.

Mong was making his third flight of the morning. When the accident occurred his machine was making what is known as a "roll spin," a straight dive for the ground from a high altitude with the tail of the machine whirling around. Suddenly the machine turned turtle, made two complete turns, and, upside down, slid off at a tangent toward the ground.

Recently Mong passed the necessary tests for reserve military airmen, and was in line for a lieutenantcy. When the fatal flight was being made, he was doing advanced or "stunt" flying.

He was regarded at the government school as one of the most proficient flyers.

The machine fell across the river from the military reservation. Several aviators who were making flights saw the fall and landed near the scene. Mong was dead among the wreckage of the machine. Surgeons on motorcycles and ambulances arrived 15 minutes later, after making a necessary detour through Mt. Clemens.

Mong enlisted in the aviation service in May in Ithaca, N. Y.

TEUTONS LAUD POPE'S PLAN

Express Hope That Pontiff's Peace Appeal Meets With Success.

Amsterdam—The German government, in its reply to the peace note of Pope Benedict, a copy of which has been received here, "cherishes a lively desire" that the appeal may meet with success.

Peace would come from the recent proposals of Pope Benedict if belligerent nations would enter into negotiations in the sense of the pontiff's suggestions, Emperor Charles of Austria-Hungary says in his reply to the Vatican note, a copy of which also reached here.

Emperor of Austria-Hungary sees in the Pope's peace plan a suitable basis for starting negotiations toward a just and lasting peace and expresses the hope that the nations opposing his own may be animated by the same idea.

The Austrian emperor admits the future arrangement of the world must be based on the elimination of armed force and on the rule of international justice and legality.

Freedom of the seas is one of the peace hopes of Emperor Charles in order that heavy material burdens could be taken from the nations of the earth and new sources of prosperity opened to them.

Oakland Rushes Road Building. Pontiac—Letting of a contract for two and a half miles of gravel road in Springfield township, to be completed this fall, provides the last link in the good road from Detroit to Holly.

Grayling Postmaster Resigns. Grayling—Postmaster John Hunn, of this city, has sent his resignation to the postoffice department. Mr. Hunn says the department has failed to provide large enough quarters, proper furniture to work with or sufficient help.

Million Dollar Fund Started for Man Who Gets Kaiser Wilhelm

Mulvane, Kan.—Twenty Mulvane men pledged themselves to give \$50 each as the first \$1,000 toward a million dollar reward to be paid to the man of any nationality who will get the kaiser.

They believe such a reward, if the notices were properly scattered across German lines, might get results and would be one of the surest and quickest means of an early peace.

ARGENTINE READY TO BREAK

Sends Ultimatum to Germany Demanding Explanation of Attitude.

Buenos Aires—The Argentine government has sent an ultimatum to Germany. In its note the government demands a formal statement from the German government of its attitude toward the behavior of its minister, Count von Luxburg, and a repudiation of the promises made respecting Argentine shipping in connection with the Toro settlement.

The Argentine government has received no explanations from Berlin since the disclosures by the American secretary of state, except a verbal statement from Baron von Dem Bussche-Haddenhausen, under-secretary of the German foreign office, made through Dr. Molina, the Argentine minister to Berlin, which Argentina considers insufficient.

The government is anxiously awaiting Berlin's response before deciding on a rupture of relations or a declaration of war.

According to the foreign office, if the German government's reported appreciation of von Luxburg is confirmed, Argentina will consider it an insult and declare war immediately.

If no confirmation of this report is forthcoming, only a rupture of relations is likely.

MOTHER HANGS SELF AND GIRLS

Crazed Woman Takes Life of Three Babies Before She Suicides.

Detroit—Constant brooding over the fancied infidelity of her husband, cumulated Saturday afternoon in sudden dementia which caused Mrs. Julia Mikola to kill her three baby daughters and herself.

The children were Irene, 5 years old; Olga, 3 years old, and Yolanda, 1 1/2 years old.

Two small sons an hour later found the bodies of their mother and sisters hanging in four separate rooms of the Mikola home. Mrs. Mikola had sent the boys out to play that she might have them clear for her tragic purpose.

In a note to her husband, John Mikola, the crazed woman insisted she could not bear to have her little girls grow up and marry unfaithful men, as had been her case. Life held nothing but pain for her, and she felt it her duty to prevent her babies undergoing a like drab existence, she said in the letter.

TEXAS GOVERNOR IS OUSTED

State Senate Impeaches Executive On Corruption Charges.

Austin, Tex.—Governor James E. Ferguson has been impeached by the state senate. The senate high court sustained 10 of the 21 charges in the bill of impeachment, which had been returned to it by the lower house committee of the whole.

The vote on the first article—that he used \$5,000 of state funds to settle a personal obligation—was sufficient to convict. A two-thirds vote was necessary. The ballot was 27 to 4.

Nine other charges showing corruption were sustained.

The governor is completely severed from the position to which he was twice elected by the people. Acting Governor William P. Hobby, an editor of Beaumont, assumes the full power of office. His tenure will extend to January, 1919.

Motorcycle Hits Buggy; 1 Dead.

Belding—Irrving Grinnell, 32 years old, was killed and Howard Chickering, 26 years old, injured fatally, when the motorcycle driven by the former hit a buggy.

GERMANS INVOLVE U.S. IN POISON PLOT

SECRETARY LANSING EXPOSES MORE EVIDENCE AGAINST TEUTON DIPLOMATS.

AGENT ADMITS WILFUL DEED

Microbes and Explosives Placed in Legation at Bucharest Before America Took Charge There.

Washington—How Germany "shamefully abused and exploited" the protection of the United States, by secreting in the German legation at Bucharest, after the American government had taken charge of Germany's affairs at the Rumanian capital, quantities of powerful explosives for bomb plots, also deadly microbes, with instructions for their use in destroying horses and cattle, was revealed Sunday by Secretary Lansing.

It was another of the series of Mr. Lansing's disclosures of German intrigue, made public without comment. The latest story is told in a report to the state department from William Whiting Andrews, secretary of the legation at Bucharest, and a letter from Foreign Minister Parumbaru, of Rumania.

Germans Arouse Suspicion.

Parcels and boxes taken into the German consulate at Bucharest with display of great precaution aroused the suspicion of the Rumanian government, August 27, 1916, the evening prior to the date of Rumania's declaration of war, some of the cases were taken to the German legation, located in a different building from the consulate. Convinced the boxes were not taken away from the legation by the German diplomatic mission on its departure from Bucharest, Rumanian authorities ordered the police to find and examine their contents.

The police communicated with American Minister Vopicka, then in charge of German interests, who reluctantly assigned Secretary Andrews to observe the search. The boxes were found buried in the garden of the German legation.

Kaiser's Agent Confesses.

Mr. Andrews' report says: "Upon my return from the examination which resulted in the discovery of the explosives and of the box of microbes, both of which the legation servants admitted having placed in the garden, the former confidential agent of the German minister, Dr. Bernhardt, who had been left with the legation at the German minister's request to assist in the care of German interests, admitted his knowledge of the explosives placed in the garden; told me that more were in the garden than had been found; that a still larger quantity had been buried in the house of the legation; and that still worse things than this box of microbes were contained in the legation, and insinuated that they would have been found even in the cabinets of dossiers, which I had sealed.

"Dr. Bernhardt also stated that all these objects had been brought to the German legation after our legation had accepted the protection of German interests, which agreed with the statement of the servants. A similar confession was made to the minister by this man.

Denial Futile in This Case.

"The protection of the United States was in this manner shamefully abused and exploited. In this instance, at least, the German government cannot have recourse to its usual system of denial."

Fifty-one boxes were taken from the ground in the garden. Fifty of them contained each a cartridge filled with trinitrotoluene, saturated with mononitrotoluene, among the most powerful explosives known, one-fifth of each of one being sufficient to tear up a railroad track. In the other box were bottles of liquid found to be cultivations of the microbes of anthrax, and glanders. It bore a seal from the German consulate at Kronstadt, Hungary. Inside was a type-written note in German, saying:

"Enclosed four phials for horses and four for cattle. To be employed as formerly arranged. Each phial is sufficient for 200 head. To be introduced if possible directly into the animals' throats; if not, into their fodder. Please make a little report on the success obtained there; in case of good results the presence of Mr. Kostoff for one day here would be desirable."

Foreign Minister Parumbaru accompanied his letter with documents to prove the origin of the boxes and their contents.

Pontiac Man Killed in France.

Pontiac—W. J. Gregory, 19 years old, son of Otis L. Gregory, is the first Pontiac boy reported killed in action in the trenches in France. He was with the Canadian troops.

Forest Rangers Exams. Oct. 29.

East Tawas—The United States forest service announces a civil service examination for positions as forest rangers to be held here, October 29.

Fordney On Conference Committee.

Saginaw—Rep. J. W. Fordney, of Saginaw, ranking member of the G. O. P. ways and means committee, has been named one of 17 house members to confer with England, Italy, France and Russian parliaments, on war legislation.